



# Scent Games At Home

*tire out your dog with natural, fulfilling sniffing*



## 1) Kibble Surprise

Take your dog's dinner or portion of kibble and sprinkle it all around a grassy or pavement area. Let them go and watch them sniff!

## 2) Treat Hunter

Make sure the dog is watching your hand, and toss an easily visible, stinky treat so that it bounces along the floor. As the dog eats and then turns around to come back to you, toss another treat in the opposite direction so the dog has to run past you to get the treat.

## 3) Shell Game with Boxes

Start with two open cardboard boxes. Put some really stinky and delicious treats (cheese, meat, canned dog food) into one, and set them in the middle of a room. Let your dog in, and wait until they find the treats in the one box. Go to the box and feed them several more treats out of that box (drop treats in the box, don't feed from your hand.). When your dog is done, take the box away, don't pull the dog away from the box. Put your dog away again and set up the boxes again in different spots (always use the same box for the food). Repeat until your dog is quickly going to the food box and eating the food. Gradually add more boxes. You can also play with items like flower pots or sports cones.

## 4) Blanket Challenge

Start by hiding a treat under a blanket or towel and encouraging the dog to find it. When they indicate they can smell it, help them get it out. Progress to using larger blankets and wrap the treat up inside. Let the dog dig and nose through the blanket to find the treat. If you've got more space, you can put out several blankets and get the dog to pick which one is the "hot" blanket!

## 5) Treasure Hunt

Take a stinky treat or pile of treats (or treat pouch) and let your dog see you hide it somewhere easy in a room. When they get to it, let them eat the treats or open the pouch and reward them. Gradually make it more difficult until your dog can't see where it's hidden, and until you hide it without them seeing where you put it. You can also play this game with a favorite toy, rewarding your dog with some fetch or a game of tug. Additionally, you can hide treats or small piles of kibbles all over the room, like an Easter Egg hunt!